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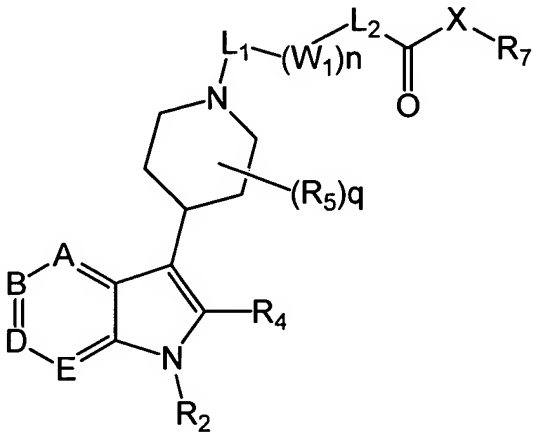
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 5, 7, 10-16, 18, 20, 22-26, 28, 31, and 32. Please cancel claims 27, 29, and 30 without prejudice or disclaimer and add new claim 33. Deletions appear in ~~strikethrough font~~, and additions are underlined. This listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Complete listing of claims

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula I



(I)

wherein:

each of A, B, D and E independently represents a nitrogen atom or a $-CR_1-$ group, with the proviso that at least one of A, B, D or E is a nitrogen atom;

R_1 represents a hydrogen or a halogen atom, or a hydroxy, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, amino, monalkyalmino, dialkylamino, nitro, cyano or acylamino group,

wherein ~~a~~the hydrocarbon chain in R_1 ~~chains of these groups being~~ is optionally substituted by one or more further substituents ~~selected~~ chosen from halogen, hydroxy, oxo, alkoxy, alkylthio, acylamino, phenyl, alkoxycarbonyl, amino, monoalkylamino, dialkylamino and hydroxycarbonyl groups;

R_2 represents a hydrogen atom or a group of formula L_3-$(W_2)_p$

L_1, L_2 and L_3 each independently represents a single bond or an acyclic, straight or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, optionally containing 1 to 3 groups independently ~~selected~~ chosen from -S-, -O- ~~or~~ and -NR_3-, which replace a corresponding number of non-adjacent carbon atoms, ~~and~~ wherein

R_3 is chosen ~~selected~~ from hydrogen ~~or~~ and an alkyl group; and

wherein ~~the~~ a hydrocarbon chain in L_1, L_2 or L_3 ~~being~~ is optionally substituted by one or more substituents chosen ~~selected~~ from halogen, hydroxy, oxo, acylamino, phenyl, alkoxycarbonyl and hydroxycarbonyl groups;

R_4 and R_5 each independently represents a hydrogen or halogen atom, a hydroxy group, or a group chosen~~selected~~ from ~~one of~~ alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl,

alkynyl ~~or~~ and phenyl, wherein each of said alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl, alkynyl or phenyl groups ~~which~~ is independently optionally substituted by one or more substituents chosen ~~selected~~ from~~,~~ halogen, hydroxy, oxo, alkoxy, alkylthio, acylamino, phenyl, alkoxycarbonyl, amino, monoalkylamino, dialkylamino and hydroxycarbonyl groups;

X represents -O- or -NR_6-;

R_6 and R_7 each independently represents a hydrogen atom, a group of formula -$(CH_2)_m$- W_3 or a group chosen ~~selected~~ from alkyl, alkenyl ~~or~~ and alkynyl, ~~which~~ wherein each of said alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl groups is independently optionally substituted by one or more substituents chosen ~~selected~~ from -$(CH_2)_m$-W_3, -O-$(CH_2)_m$-W_3, S-$(CH_2)_m$-W_3, -NR_3-$(CH_2)_m$-W_3, hydroxy, oxo, halogen, alkoxy, alkylthio, amino, monoalkylamino, and dialkylamino;

wherein each of the alkyl chains in the alkoxy, alkylthio, monoalkylamino and dialkylamino substituents ~~being~~ is independently optionally substituted by one or more further substituents chosen ~~selected~~ from -$(CH_2)_m$-W_3, hydroxy, oxo, halogen, alkoxy, alkylthio, amino, monoalkylamino and dialkylamino groups;

W_1, W_2 and W_3 each independently represents a 3- to 7-membered aromatic or nonaromatic cyclic group containing from 0 to 4 heteroatoms chosen

~~selected~~ from N, O and S, ~~which~~wherein the 3- to 7-membered aromatic or nonaromatic cyclic group is independently optionally fused to another 3- to 7-membered aromatic or non-aromatic cyclic group containing from 0 to 4 heteroatoms chosen ~~selected~~ from N, O and S;

wherein ~~the~~ each cyclic ~~groups~~group is independently ~~being~~ optionally substituted by one or more substituents chosen ~~selected~~ from halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, heterocyclic, hydroxy, alkylenedioxy, alkoxy, alkylthio, amino, monoalkylamino, dialkylamino, nitro, cyano, oxo, hydroxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acylamino, carbamoyl, and alkylcarbamoyl groups;

wherein each of the hydrocarbon chains and the cyclic moieties of these substituents ~~being~~ is independently optionally substituted by one or more further substituents chosen~~selected~~ from halogen, hydroxy, oxo, alkoxy, alkylthio, acylamino, carbamoyl, alkylcarbamoyl, hydroxyalkoxy, phenyl, alkoxycarbonyl, amino, monoalkylamino, dialkylamino and hydroxycarbonyl groups;

m is an integer from 0 to 4

n and p are independently 0 or 1

q is an integer from 1 to 9

~~and N-oxides~~ or a N-oxide ~~and~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable ~~salts~~ salt thereof,

with the proviso that the compound of formula I is not the tert-butyl ester of 4-(5-amino-1H-pyrrolo[3,2-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein only one or two of A, B, D or E is a nitrogen atom.

3. (Original) A compound according to claim 2, wherein only one of D or E is a nitrogen atom.

4. (Original) A compound according to claim 2, wherein only two of A, B, D or E is a nitrogen atom, the nitrogen atoms being at positions A and D or B and E.

5. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein each R_1, is independently chosen~~selected~~ from a hydrogen atom, ~~or~~a halogen atom, ~~or~~ an alkyl group, ~~or~~ and an alkoxy group.

6. (Original) A compound according to claim 5, wherein R_1, is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine or methoxy.

7. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein each of L_1, L_2 and L_3 independently represents a single bond or an alkyl, oxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, thioalkyl or alkoxyalkyl group.

8. (Original) A compound according to claim 7, wherein L_1 is an alkyl, oxyalkyl, aminoalkyl or thioalkyl group; L_2 is a single bond or an alkyl group; and L3 is a single bond or an alkyl, oxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl group.

9. (Original) A compound according to claim 8, wherein L_1 is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, oxyethyl, oxypropyl, aminoethyl or thioethyl ; L_2 is a single bond, methyl or ethyl ; and L_3 is a single bond, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, butyl, oxyethyl, methoxyethyl or ethoxyethyl.

10. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein W_1 is an aromatic monocyclic group, which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents chosen~~selected~~ from halogen atoms, alkyl ~~or~~ and alkoxy groups.

11. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 10, wherein W_1 is a phenyl, furanyl or thienyl group, and wherein W_1 is optionally substituted by one or more substituents chosen~~selected~~ from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, methyl ~~or~~ and methoxy.

12. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ wherein n is 0.

13. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein W_2 is a cycloalkyl group, a phenyl group, or a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl group, and wherein W_2 is optionally substituted by one or more substituents chosen~~selected~~ from halogen, alkyl ~~or~~ and alkoxy.

14. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 13, wherein W_2 is a cyclic group chosen~~selected~~ from cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, phenyl, tetrahydropyranyl, furanyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, pyridinyl, oxetanyl ~~or~~ and dioxanyl, and is optionally substituted by one or more substituents chosen~~selected~~ from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, methyl, ethyl ~~or~~ and methoxy.

15. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~ wherein p is 0 or R_2 is hydrogen.

16. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein R_4 and R_5 each independently represents a hydrogen or halogen atom, a C_1-C_4 alkyl group or a phenyl group, which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents ~~selected~~chosen from halogen, alkyl ~~or~~ and alkoxy.

17. (Original) A compound according to claim 16, wherein R_4 and R_5 are both hydrogen.

18. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein X is -O- and R_7 is hydrogen, alkyl or a -$(CH_2)_n$-phenyl group, and wherein n is 0 or 1.

19. (Original) A compound according to claim 18, wherein R_7 is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, tert-butyl, phenyl or benzyl.

20. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 17~~ wherein X is -N-R_6, and R_6 and R_7 are independently hydrogen, alkyl or a -$(CH_2)_n$-phenyl group, and wherein n is 0 or 1.

21. (Original) A compound according to claim 20, wherein R_6 and R_7 are independently hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, tert-butyl, phenyl or benzyl.

22. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~which is one of~~ chosen from:

3-{4-[1-(2-methoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-ylmethyl} benzoic acid;

3-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl) piperidin-1-ylmethyl]benzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)piperdine-1-yl]ethoxy}benzoic acid;

3-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine-3-yl]piperidin-1-ylmethyl} benzoic acid;

5-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine-1-ylmethyl}-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-ylethoxy) benzoic acid;

5-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-furan-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-benzoic acid;

3-[4-(1-furan-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-benzoic acid;

5-[4-(1-furan-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2methoxy- benzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-thiophen-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}- benzoic acid;

3-[4-(1-thiophen-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperdin-1-ylmethyl]-benzoic acid;

2-methoxy-5-[4-(1-thiophen-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]- benzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-thiophen-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}- benzoic acid;

3-[4-(1-thiophen-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-benzoic acid;

2-methoxy-5-[4-(1-thiophen-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]- benzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}- ethoxy) -benzoic acid;

3-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}- benzoic acid;

5-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-2- methoxybenzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(2-methoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-benzoic acid;

2-methoxy-5- 4-[1-(2-methoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}- benzoic acid;

2,4-dimethoxy-3-{4-[1-(2-methoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-benzoic acid;

2-methoxy-6-(2-{4-[1-(2-methoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}- ethoxy) -benzoic acid;

5-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-benzoic acid;

3-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-benzoic acid

2-{2-[4-(1-cyclopropylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-benzoic acid;

3-[4-(1-cyclopropylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-benzoic acid;

5-[4-(1-cyclopropylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-isopropyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-benzoic acid;

3-[4-(1-isopropyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-benzoic acid;

5-[4-(1-isopropyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-{4-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-butyric acid;

(2-{4-[1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-acetic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-4-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-3-methoxybenzoic acid;

4-chloro-2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)- benzoic acid;

5-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-2-fluorobenzoic acid;

3-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

3-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-2, 4-dimethoxybenzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-6-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-4-methoxybenzoic acid;

4-chloro-2-{2-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}- benzoic acid;

2-fluoro-5-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]- benzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-3-methoxybenzoic acid;

3-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

3-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2, 4-dimethoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-6-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-furan-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-4-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-furan-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-3-methoxybenzoic acid;

4-chloro-2-{2-[4-(1-furan-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}- benzoic acid;

2-fluoro-5-[4-(1-furan-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]- benzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}- ethoxy) -3-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-4-methoxybenzoic acid;

4-chloro-2-(2- 4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-benzoic acid;

5-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-2- fluorobenzoic acid;

3- 4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-2- methoxybenzoic acid;

3-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}- 2,4-dimethoxybenzoic acid;

2-2-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}- ethoxy) -6-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy} 4-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-3-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-4-chlorobenzoic acid;

5-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2-fluorobenzoic acid;

3-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2-methoxybenzoic acid ;

3-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2, 4-dimethoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-6-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-pyridin-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-benzoic acid;

4-[4-(1-pyridin-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-butyric acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-benzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-3-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-4-methoxybenzoic acid;

4-chloro-2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)- benzoic acid;

5-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

4-bromo-3-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-benzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]ethoxy}-4-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-benzoic acid;

5-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

3-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

4-chloro-2-{2-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy} benzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-benzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yi)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-3methoxy-benzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-4methoxy-benzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yi]-ethoxy}-4-chlorobenzoic acid;

5-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

4-bromo-3-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-benzoic acid;

3-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-benzoic acid;

5-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-benzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-3-methoxybenzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-4-methoxybenzoic acid;

4-chloro-2-(2-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-benzoic acid;

(2-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-acetic acid;

2-{2-[4-[1-thiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-benzoic acid;

2-{2-[4-(1-furan-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]ethoxy}-benzoic acid;

5-[4-(1-furan-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2-methoxybenzoic acid;

4-methoxy-2-{2-[4-(1-thiophen-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-benzoic acid;

2-methoxy-5-[4-(1-thiophen-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]- benzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-(1-(2-methoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-benzoic acid;

2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-7-hydroxy-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)- benzoic acid;

3-{4-[1-(2-methoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-ylmethyl} benzoic acid ethyl ester;

3-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl) piperidin-1-ylmethyl]benzoic acid methyl ester;

2-{2-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl) piperidine-1-yl]ethoxy} benzoic acid methyl ester;

3-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine-3-yl]piperidin-1-ylmethyl} benzoic acid methyl ester;

5-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine-1-ylmethyl}-2-methoxybenzoic acid ethyl ester;

2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]piperidin-1-ylethoxy)benzoic acid methyl ester;

5-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2-methoxybenzoic acid ethyl ester;

2-(2-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-benzoic acid methyl ester;

5-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-2-methoxybenzoic acid ethyl ester;

2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-4-methoxybenzoic acid methyl ester;

2-(2-{4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-benzoic acid methyl ester;

2-{2-[4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-4-methoxy-benzoic acid methyl ester;

2-{2-[4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-benzoic acid methyl ester;

5-{4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-2-methoxybenzoic acid ethyl ester;

4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester;

4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;

4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester;

4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;

4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;

4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;

4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;

4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;

4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ter-butyl ester;

4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;

4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ter-butyl ester;

4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester 4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;

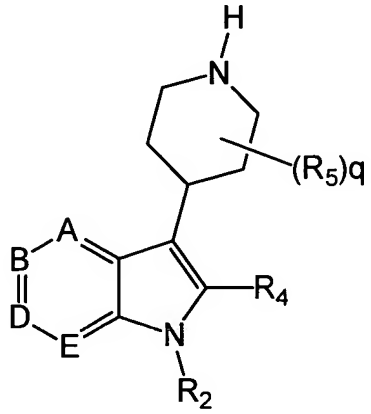
4-(1-furan-3-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;

4-(1-butyl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl)-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester; and

4-[1-(5-chlorothiophen-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-3-yl]-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;

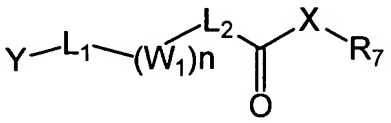
or a N-oxide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

23. (Currently amended) A process for producing a compound ~~of formula I~~as claimed in claim 1, comprising ~~as defined in any one of the preceding claims, which process comprises~~ alkylating a compound of formula X



(X)

~~wherein A, B, D, E, R_2, R_4, R_5 and q are as defined in any one of the preceding claims,~~ with a reactive intermediate of general formula XI



(XI)

wherein ~~L_1, L_2, W_1, n, X and R_7 are as defined in any one of the preceding claims above and~~ Y is a leaving group, and

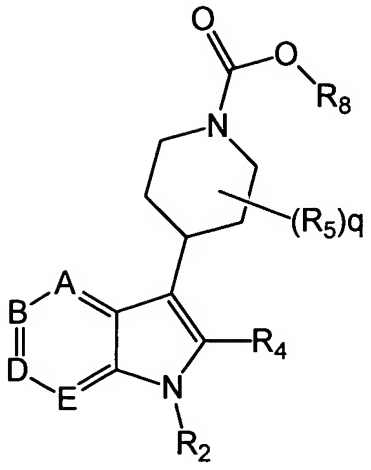
optionally converting the product of the alkylation reaction into the corresponding N-oxide or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. ~~such as a chlorine or a bromine atom or a methane sulphonate, p-toluene sulphonate or a benzene sulphonate group.~~

24. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 23 for ~~further~~ obtaining ~~those~~ a compound ~~compounds of formula I~~ wherein X is oxygen~~,~~ and R_7 is hydrogen comprising ~~and A, B, D, E, L_1, L_2, R_2, R_4, R_5, q, W_1, and n are as defined in claim 23~~, ~~which process comprises the hydrolysis of~~hydrolyzing the corresponding compound of formula I wherein

R_7 ~~is as defined in claim 1~~ represents a hydrogen atom, a group of formula $-(CH_2)_m-W_3$ or a group chosen from alkyl, alkenyl and alkynyl, wherein R_7 is optionally substituted by one or more substituents chosen from $-(CH_2)_m-W_3$, $-O-(CH_2)_m-W_3$, $S-(CH_2)_m-W_3$, $-NR_3-(CH_2)_m-W_3$, hydroxy, oxo, halogen, alkoxy, alkylthio, amino, monoalkylamino, and dialkylamino;

wherein each of the alkyl chains in the alkoxy, alkylthio, monoalkylamino and dialkylamino substituents is independently optionally substituted by one or more further substituents chosen from $-(CH_2)_m-W_3$, hydroxy, oxo, halogen, alkoxy, alkylthio, amino, monoalkylamino and dialkylamino groups.

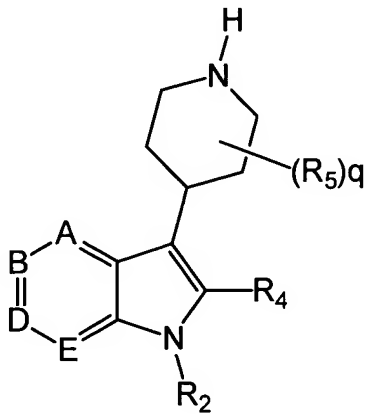
25. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 23, wherein the compound of formula X is obtained by deprotection of a compound of formula XX



(XX)

wherein ~~A, B, D, E, R_2, R_4, R_5 and q are as defined in any one of the preceding claims and~~ R_8 represents an ethyl or tert-butyl group.

26. (Currently amended) A compound of formula X



(X)

wherein ~~A, B, D, E, R_2, R_4, R_5 and q are as defined in any one of the preceding claims,~~

each of A, B, D and E independently represents a nitrogen atom or a $-CR_1-$ group, with the proviso that at least one of A, B, D or E is a nitrogen atom;

R_1 represents a hydrogen or a halogen atom, or a hydroxy, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, amino, monalkyalmino, dialkylamino, nitro, cyano or acylamino group,

wherein a hydrocarbon chain in R_1 is optionally substituted by one or more further substituents chosen from halogen, hydroxy, oxo, alkoxy, alkylthio, acylamino, phenyl, alkoxycarbonyl, amino, monoalkylamino, dialkylamino and hydroxycarbonyl groups;

R_2 represents a hydrogen atom or a group of formula L_3-$(W_2)_p$

wherein

L_3 represents a single bond or an acyclic, straight or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, optionally containing 1 to 3 groups independently chosen from -S-, -O- and -NR_3-, which replace a corresponding number of non-adjacent carbon atoms,

wherein

R_3 is chosen from hydrogen and an alkyl group; and

wherein a hydrocarbon chain in L_3 is optionally substituted by one or more substituents chosen from halogen, hydroxy, oxo, acylamino, phenyl, alkoxycarbonyl and hydroxycarbonyl groups;

W_2 represents a 3- to 7-membered aromatic or nonaromatic cyclic group containing from 0 to 4 heteroatoms chosen from N, O and S,

wherein the 3- to 7-membered aromatic or nonaromatic cyclic is optionally fused to another 3- to 7-membered aromatic or non-aromatic cyclic group containing from 0 to 4 heteroatoms chosen from N, O and S;

wherein each cyclic group is independently optionally substituted by one or more substituents chosen from halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, heterocyclic, hydroxy, alkylenedioxy, alkoxy, alkylthio, amino, monoalkylamino, dialkylamino, nitro, cyano, oxo, hydroxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acylamino, carbamoyl, and alkylcarbamoyl groups;

wherein each of the hydrocarbon chains and the cyclic moieties of these substituents is independently optionally substituted by one or more further substituents chosen from halogen, hydroxy, oxo, alkoxy, alkylthio, acylamino, carbamoyl, alkylcarbamoyl, hydroxyalkoxy, phenyl, alkoxycarbonyl, amino, monoalkylamino, dialkylamino and hydroxycarbonyl groups;

p is 0 or 1

R_4 and R_5 each independently represents a hydrogen or halogen atom, a hydroxy group, or a group chosen from alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl, alkynyl and phenyl, wherein each of said alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl, alkynyl, or phenyl is independently optionally substituted by one or more substituents chosen

from halogen, hydroxy, oxo, alkoxy, alkylthio, acylamino, phenyl, alkoxycarbonyl, amino, monoalkylamino, dialkylamino and hydroxycarbonyl groups;

q is an integer from 1 to 9;

or a N-oxide and or a pharmaceutically acceptable salts salt thereof;

with the proviso that when A is a nitrogen atom; B is a $-CR_1-$ group ; D and E are both -CH-; and R_2, R_4 and R_5, are all hydrogen, then R_1 cannot be an acylamino group.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as ~~defined in any one of claims 1 to 22 mixed with~~claimed in claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently amended) A method for treating a subject afflicted with a pathological condition or disease susceptible to amelioration by antagonism of H_1 histamine receptors, ~~which comprises~~ comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound as ~~defined in any one of claims 1 to 22~~claimed in claim 1.

32. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 31, wherein the pathological condition or disease is chosen from bronchial asthma, allergic rhinitis, conjunctivitis, dermatitis, urticaria ~~or~~ and any other allergic disease.

33. (New) A process according to claim 23, wherein the leaving group is chosen from chlorine, bromine, a methane sulphonate group, a p-toluene sulphonate group and a benzene sulphonate group.